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JOHN TURTURRO

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FREEDOM RINGS FOR 'AMERICAN TALIBAN'

After serving 17 years of a 20-year sentence, John Walker Lindh, a.k.a. the "American Taliban," is scheduled to be released today from federal prison. 2

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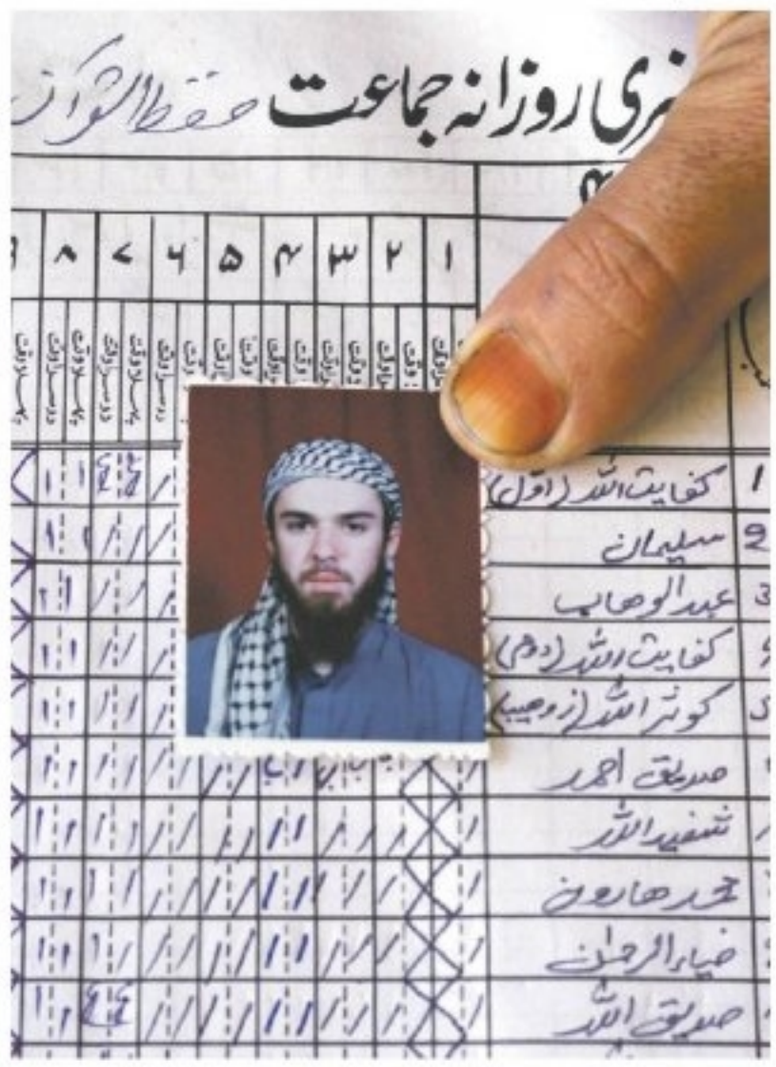
8 THINGS TO KNOW

‘American Taliban’ to be released from prison today

Several lawmakers objected to John Walker Lindh’s early release.

REUTERS



John Walker Lindh, the American captured in Afghanistan in 2001 fighting for the Taliban and vilified as a national traitor, is to be released early from a federal prison on Thursday while some U.S. lawmakers worry he still poses a security risk.

Lindh, photographed as a wild-eyed, bearded 20-year-old at his capture, will leave a federal prison in Terre Haute, Indiana, on probation after serving 17 years of a 20-year sentence, according to a prison official.

Now 38, Lindh is among dozens of prisoners set to be released over the next few years after being captured in Iraq and Afghanistan by U.S. forces and convicted of terrorism-related crimes following the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

His release brought objections from elected officials who asked why Lindh was being freed early and what training parole officers had to spot radicalization and recidivism among former jihadists.

Leaked U.S. government documents published by Foreign Policy magazine show the federal government as recently as 2016 described Lindh as holding “extremist views.”

“What is the current interagency policy, strategy, and process for ensuring that terrorist/extremist offenders successfully reintegrate into society?” asked U.S. Sens. Richard Shelby and Maggie Hassan in a letter to the Federal Bureau of Prisons.

Lindh’s parents Marilyn Walker and Frank Lindh did not immediately respond to requests for comment. Lindh’s lawyer Bill Cummings declined to comment.

Melissa Kimberley, a spokeswoman for the Terra Haute prison, could not confirm details of Lindh’s release other than it would be on Thursday.

“What is the current interagency policy, strategy, and process for ensuring that terrorist/extremist offenders successfully reintegrate into society?”

U.S. Sens. Richard Shelby and Maggie Hassan, in a letter to the Federal Bureau of Prisons

U.S.-born Lindh converted from Catholicism to Islam as a teenager. At his 2002 sentencing he said he had traveled to Yemen to learn Arabic and then to Pakistan to study Islam. He said he volunteered as a Taliban soldier to help fellow Muslims in their struggle or “jihad.” He said he had no intention “to fight against America” and never understood jihad to mean anti-Americanism.

Lindh told the court he condemned “terrorism on every level” and attacks by al-Qaeda leader Osama bin-Laden were “completely against Islam.”

While in prison, Lindh successfully lobbied to overturn a ban on group prayer by Muslim prisoners.

A January 2017 report by the U.S. government’s National Counterterrorism Center, published by Foreign Policy, said that as of May 2016, Lindh “continued to advocate for global jihad and to write and translate violent extremist texts.” REUTERS

Avenatti indicted for ripping off Stormy, extorting Nike

2 Michael Avenatti’s legal troubles escalated on Wednesday as federal prosecutors announced new criminal charges accusing the lawyer and prominent critic of President Donald Trump of stealing from porn star Stormy Daniels and extorting Nike. Prosecutors accused Avenatti, 48, of stealing about $300,000 from Daniels, about half of which has not been repaid, after helping his former client secure a book contract. They also said he has been indicted on previously announced charges that he tried to blackmail Nike out of more than $20 million by threatening to expose what he called the athletic wear company’s improper payments to recruits for college basketball teams it sponsored. The charges were announced by U.S. Attorney Geoffrey Berman in Manhattan. If convicted on all charges, Avenatti could face several hundred years in prison. REUTERS

Chiefs’ Mathieu alleged victim in $5M extortion plot

3 A relative of Tyrann Mathieu has been accused of trying to extort $5 million from the Kansas City Chiefs safety. ESPN reported that Geourvon Keinell Sears, 21, allegedly threatened to reveal personal information to TMZ if he didn’t receive the money. Documents filed in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana contend Sears demanded $1.5 million from Mathieu in April, then raised the price to $5 million. While the alleged victim of the extortion plot is identified only by initials in court documents, Mathieu’s lawyer, Denise White of EAG Sports, confirmed to KMBC 9 in Kansas City that Mathieu was the target. White said Mathieu is working through a “private and personal family issue.” Sears is alleged to have told Mathieu’s friends that if the money was not paid, he would “kill you all.” Sears is set to appear in court on June 21. REUTERS

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ISTOCK IMAGES

Machete-wielding man shot by US Marshals in Wissinoming

The man had a warrant for making terroristic threats against police.

BECCA GLASSER-BAKER
letters@metro.us

U.S. Marshals shot and wounded a man wielding a machete in the Wissinoming area of Philadelphia on Wednesday morning.

James Burke, assistant chief deputy at the Marshals' Philadelphia office, said the U.S. Marshals had been seeking out a man identified as Joseph Ankrah, according to Philly.com. Officers were looking for Ankrah because he had a warrant from Abington Township for "making terroristic threats against law enforcement." Burke said officers first started their pursuit by boxing in the man's car at approximately 8:15 a.m.

That's when Ankrah allegedly got out of the car through the passenger door, armed with a machete, and attempted to escape pursuit by two marshals. Ankrah headed toward an alleyway as one deputy tried unsuccessfully to stop him with a Taser.

Philly police told Metro that after Ankrah was Tased, he "ran into the rear alley, where the U.S. Marshals discharged several times, striking him one time in the lower back." He was shot in his right shoulder and the upper left side of his back.

Officers said that after he was shot, Ankrah continued to evade officers and ran into a local park. At the park, he was met with more deputies, who once again asked him to drop the weapon. That's when Ankrah fell to the ground.

A witness told Philly.com he saw the plain-clothes marshal holding a gun and yelling at a man the witness described as wearing a black shirt and "staggering" across the street.

The witness also recalled the unnamed marshal speaking to the machete-wielding man and saying, "Put down the machete. We're going to get you some help!"

A witness who heard the gunshots and spoke with told NBC, "I told my kids to get inside the house, [because] I was trying to get the kids to school. Then I saw somebody fleeing in the alley."

> **"I told my kids to get inside the house, [because] I was trying to get the kids to school. Then I saw somebody fleeing in the alley."**
> Eyewitness

The man was transported to Jefferson-Torresdale Hospital by police and was in stable condition as of press time.

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President Trump. REUTERS

Trump blasts Pelosi 'cover-up' accusation, balks on infrastructure

"No one is above the law," the House speaker said, referring to the president.

President Donald Trump fired back on Wednesday at House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's accusation that he is engaged in a cover-up over the Mueller Russia investigation, saying at a hastily arranged White House appearance, "I don't do cover-ups."

Visibly angered by Pelosi's remarks, Trump also said he would not work with Democrats, who control the House of Representatives, on a major infrastructure proposal because of "phony" investigations they are pursuing in Congress.

The Republican president added that he was upset that Democratic lawmakers discussed the possibility of impeaching him before a White House meeting on infrastructure.

Trump repeated his previous rhetoric about Special Counsel Robert Mueller's probe of Russia's interference in Trump's favor in the 2016 U.S. presidential election and whether Trump impeded Mueller's inquiry. "No collusion, no obstruction, no nothing," Trump said. "This whole thing was a takedown attempt at the president of the United States."

Regarding the infrastructure meeting, Trump said, "I walked into the room and I told Sen. [Chuck] Schumer, Speaker Pelosi, I want to do infrastructure. I want to do it more than you want to do it. I'd be really good at that — that's what I do. But you know what? You can't do it under these circumstances. So get these phony investigations over with."

> **"This whole thing was a takedown attempt at the president of the United States."**
>
> President Trump

Afterward, at a press conference with Senate Democratic Leader Schumer, Pelosi told reporters Trump may have lacked the confidence to work with Democrats on infrastructure. She said she prays for Trump.

Schumer said watching what happened at the meeting between the president and Democratic lawmakers "would make your jaw drop." He said that when Trump was asked how he would pay for an infrastructure plan, "he had to run away."

As Democrats in Congress debated impeaching Trump, Pelosi said on Wednesday, about an hour before a White House meeting with him, that Trump is engaged in a "cover-up."

The president is stonewalling multiple congressional investigations by ignoring subpoenas, refusing to allow current and former advisers to testify, and not handing over documents, steps that have aggravated a confrontation with Congress.

"No one is above the law, including the president of the United States. And we believe that the president of the United States is engaged in a cover-up," Pelosi told reporters after a morning meeting of House Democrats.

She and other congressional leaders met briefly with Trump just before his appearance before reporters to talk about a potential bipartisan infrastructure development plan, although a firm proposal for funding any such effort has yet to emerge. The meeting lasted only a few minutes.

Trump and Democrats who control the House are engaged in a high-stakes power struggle over their ability to investigate him, with the president increasingly asserting that his advisers need not respond to lawmakers' inquiries. REUTERS

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REUTERS

NY state legislature votes to make Trump tax returns available

The bill now goes to Gov. Andrew Cuomo for final approval.

New York state's legislature on Wednesday passed a bill that would make it easier for U.S. congressional committees investigating President Donald Trump to get access to his state tax returns.

The Democratic-controlled state Assembly and Senate voted along party lines on the measure, which would circumvent his refusal to hand over his federal tax returns to Congress.

New York Republicans who opposed the bill called it an abuse of power that fed into the political designs of Democrats in Washington, the Albany Times-Union reported. It now goes to Democratic Gov. Andrew Cuomo for final approval.

Trump has refused to release any of his tax returns, breaking a decades-long tradition of U.S. presidents making their personal finances public to demonstrate that they have no conflicts of interest.

Although the bill does not name Trump, it allows the state Department of Taxation and Finance to share state tax return information with a congressional committee that requests it. Much of the information submitted in New York state tax returns is similar to that on federal forms.

Trump and Democrats who control the U.S. House of Representatives are locked in a battle over their ability to investigate him.

> **"I don't do cover-ups."**
> President Trump

The president is stonewalling multiple congressional investigations by ignoring subpoenas, refusing to allow current and former advisers to testify, and not handing over documents.

For example the U.S. House of Representatives Ways and Means Committee requested Trump's federal tax returns by subpoena but the request was denied by Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin.

Trump's personal home and the headquarters for his business are in New York, requiring him to file state tax returns in addition to his federal returns.

"New York has a unique role to help head off the constitutional crisis brewing between Congress and the White House over refusal to comply with the request for Donald Trump's tax returns," said the bill's sponsor, Sen. Brad Hoylman, according to the Times-Union. "We are affirming Congress' role as a co-equal branch of government and the sacred constitutional principle that nobody is above the law, not even the highest elected official in the land."

In comments to reporters on Wednesday, Trump criticized Democrats for continuing their wide-ranging follow-up to Special Counsel Robert Mueller's Russia probe.

"I don't do cover-ups," Trump said, responding to a charge made by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi just moments prior.

The White House did not immediately respond to a request for comment on the New York legislation. REUTERS

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Virginia governor's role in blackface photo 'unclear'

Northam had claimed to be impersonating Michael Jackson.

Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam. REUTERS

Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam's former medical school was unable to determine his role in a racist photograph that appeared on his 1984 yearbook page, according to a report released on Wednesday following a three-month inquiry.

The photo sparked weeks of political chaos in the state after it was published by a conservative website in February, setting off scandals that embroiled Virginia's three top Democrats. It shows one person in blackface makeup and another in the robes of the white supremacist Ku Klux Klan.

Northam initially admitted to having appeared in the photo and apologized. He later changed his story, saying he did not believe he was pictured, but had performed in blackface to impersonate the singer Michael Jackson at about that time.

That led his alma mater, the Eastern Virginia Medical School, to hire the law firm McGuireWoods to investigate how the photo appeared on Northam's yearbook page.

"No one we interviewed told us the governor was in the photograph, and no one could positively state who was in the photograph," the report said. "We found no information that the photograph was placed in error, though we acknowledge there is scant information on this subject thirty-five years after the fact."

Northam repeated his belief that he was not in the "racist and offensive" photograph in a statement released on Wednesday after the report was made public. He also apologized for his contradictory statement in February.

"I felt it was important to take accountability for the photo's presence on my page, but rather than providing clarity, I instead deepened pain and confusion," his statement said.

TEETH, LEGS NOT A MATCH?

Northam, a white 59-year-old former U.S. Army doctor, resisted February calls to step down from within his own party in Virginia — seen as a key swing state for the 2020 presidential election — as well as from at least five Democratic presidential candidates. REUTERS

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	3				1	5		6
	2	1	5			3		8
5						9	2	3
6	9						5	4
3	4	8						7
9		6			5	2	3	
2		3	9				7	
	5				2			

MEDIUM

					8	6		
	8						5	7
6				5	9			3
4		7	5		2			
	2			3			9	
			1		6	2		5
3			9	1				8
8	7						3	
		5	6					

VENT TO US! GRUMBLE@METRO.US

READER WRITE-INS:

GROUPS WHO CUT YOU IN LINE

I was waiting in line for a concert. I had been there for a while to get a good position when a group of four people walked up to where I was in line to cut me to be with their friend. I got over it pretty quickly. It wasn't too many people. But then, three more people cut to be with that group! That is just ridiculous!!!!! I earned this spot!! Stuff like that really ticks me off.

— **Geoff**, *Metro US reader*

ISTOCK

metro.us/horoscopes

Aries Think big, but stick to what's actually doable. Avoid conflict at all costs. Gather information and focus on personal growth. Positive change begins within. Trust in your ability to excel.

Taurus Just do it. Put your plan in motion and keep moving forward. Recognize that you can accomplish more if you work alone. Someone will meddle in your affairs.

Gemini Chitchat will draw interest and suggestions from people who think the same way as you. The input you get will encourage you to rethink a personal decision.

Cancer Take care of unfinished business, financial, health or legal issues to ease your stress and clear your schedule so you can spend more time with a loved one.

Leo How you help others will make a difference. Don't take on others' responsibilities when you can teach people how to take care of things themselves. Look for an opportunity to expand your interests.

Virgo You'll learn if you observe what others do and listen to what they say. A change in attitude will give you the spark and enthusiasm you need to achieve your goals.

Libra How you handle stress will affect the way others treat you. Don't let your emotions get out of hand and lead to regrettable actions. Think before you make a move.

Scorpio If you do or learn something new, you will spark your imagination and be encouraged to make a positive lifestyle change. Romance is encouraged.

Sagittarius Remember what you've done in the past to find a way to bypass any obstacle that stands in your way. Believe in yourself.

Capricorn Listen to what others have to say, but when it comes down to taking care of business, do what works best for you. A personal change will fetch positive results.

Aquarius Call in a favor if it will help you bring about the changes you want to make. Offer something in return to ensure that you will not feel indebted.

Pisces Mingle and network with people who share your beliefs, but know when to walk away from someone who is trying to take advantage of you. Don't believe everything you hear. EUGENIA LAST

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SUNDANCETV

John Turturro on uncovering the truth in 'The Name of the Rose'

Turturro stars in the eight-part series, adapted from the classic novel, on SundanceTV.

PAT KING
patrick.king@metro.us

Is being satisfied with an answer actually more important than hearing a truth that is too hard to swallow? At what lengths should we go toward self-preservation or censorship to silence parody or critique of societal norms? These are some of the larger questions posed in Umberto Eco's classic novel "The Name of the Rose." The novel, originally released in 1980, has sold over 50 million copies worldwide and has been adapted into an eight-part limited series premiering tonight on SundanceTV with actor John Turturro as its lead.

The story is set in Italy in 1937 as William of Baskerville (Turturro), a Franciscan Monk, travels with his novice Adso von Melk to a secluded monastery in the Alps. The purpose of their visit is a theological disputation surrounding heresy and Aristotle's a mysterious and controversial book. While William and von Melk are at the monastery, they get caught in the middle of a series of murders and begin to learn many of the dark secrets many of the monks had been trying to keep hidden.

The show was shot on location in Italy and directed by Italian director Giacomo Battiato. When Battiato approached Turturro to play the part of William, Turturro was intrigued but felt as though he needed to lend his talents to the writing room as well to make sure that the story's timeless themes of resistance under puritanical rule would make their way onto the screen.

"My interest, why I started working on the script with Giacomo Battiato, was to put as much of Eco as we could into the series because I didn't really want to do a watered-down version," says Turturro. "It's a murder mystery but it has all of these important elements like how could a man be a man of faith, like William, and be a man of science? He's a philosopher, but he's a man of action. He was an inquisitor, but he's a person who renounces violence. He values women even though he's amongst all of these men who fear women and demonize them. I thought the most interesting thing in the whole book was this understanding that the power of knowledge of what he says [takes] the form of the "antichrist," which is any form of absolutism. I thought these things are wonderful and we could get them in if we had more than two-and-a-half hours to do it."

"The Name of the Rose" also stars Michael Emerson as the monastery abbot and Rupert Everett as the chilling inquisitor Bernard Gui. It takes viewers on a chilling and winding mystery that poses questions that are still relevant given the recent shifts toward authoritarian politics in many of the world's leading societies.

"We've seen it not just today, but throughout history," explains Turturro. "When any sort of fanaticism, or fascism, absolutism or totalitarian regime comes in, they attack intellectuals. They attack the library. They burn books. Knowledge is such a powerful tool. It's a powerful tool for a poor person to improve their lot in life."

And that is exactly what that kind of censorship and persecution is meant to do: keep a certain demographic oppressed in order to rule with ease.

"That fear that you see in a very, maybe, a more primitive way is still paramount in many cultures and societies today, in subtle ways," says Turturro. "I love when you go back 1,000 years and you are exactly where you are right now. Because I think that teaches you that people aren't inventing this stuff. It has a long line in it. Any time you can figure out who you are or what you are, it's empowering. Because you don't look at yourself the same way. You can say, 'I'm all of these things, I'm not one thing.' We all have our strengths and weaknesses, but these themes are universal themes. I think he was very smart, Eco, to put it into a murder mystery that really revolves around the protection of a book not being released into the public consciousness, or a way of thinking into the public consciousness. You can go right from Aristotle's 'Poetics' to 'Saturday Night Live' if you want to [laughs]."

"The Name of the Rose" premieres tonight on SundanceTV at 10 p.m. ET.

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There's always time for a glass of wine

National Wine Day is Saturday.

MOLLY GIVEN
Molly.Given@metro.us

It's time to grab your corkscrew and polish your best glasses Philly, National Wine Day is this weekend. Whether you're an avid wine drinker, a sometimes wine sipper or a full-blown sommelier, there are plenty of enticing options in the City of Brotherly Love for you to choose from. Here is where to celebrate National Wine Day in Philadelphia.

Pair a delicious wine with a sweet treat at Chocodiem. PUNCH MEDIA

Chez Ben

This Saturday, Chez Ben will be taking guests' tastebuds around the world with their special National Wine Day offering. Any Philadelphian who heads to Chez Ben can indulge in their $20 "Wines from around the World" flight. Guests can choose three wines by the glass from Spain, France, Chile, California and more. While enjoying the flight, be sure to pair it with some of Chez Ben's enticing menu offerings such as their charcuterie and cheese boards, flatbread options, indulgent dessert selections and more.
400 Chestnut St., chezben-bistrophilly.com

Jet Wine Bar

It's no secret that Jet Wine Bar has a strong wine game. But they are taking even their incredible repertoire up a notch with their National Wine Day specials. This Saturday, Philadelphians can enjoy $12 flights of Macedonia Wines from the Popova Kula Winery in Tikves, Macedonia, plus happy hour specials from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. where select wines will be featured for just $6 a glass. The wine flight will include a Sauvignon Blanc, Macedonia Rosé of Stanushina and Macedonia Cabernet Sauvignon, and the happy hour will feature an Italian white blend, Rosé and an Australian Shiraz. *1525 South St., jetwinebar.com*

Ocean Prime

This Center City hotspot is offering an amazing deal for National Wine Day this Saturday. Philadelphians can enjoy a juicy 24 oz. prime Porterhouse steak (served with wild mushrooms and a red wine reduction) paired with a 2013 Waugh Cellars Cabernet Sauvignon from the Coravin list for only $110 all weekend long. Imbibers will love the Cabernet selection which boasts hints of spice, wood, and notes of pure blackberry that perfectly compliment the flavors of the steak.
124 S 15th St., ocean-prime.com

Seasons 52

This Cherry Hill hotspot features 52 world-class wines by the glass, a decadent menu and much more making it the perfect spot for National Wine Day this weekend. There is a wine option for everyone, from organic selections to the latest innovations from guest-favorite producers, such as Caymus and Lafite. Pair one of their indulgent wines with a mouth-watering signature dish such as their cedar plank-roasted salmon, caramelized grilled sea scallops, wood-grilled filet mignon and much more.
2000 NJ-38, Cherry Hill, N.J., seasons52.com

Chocodiem at The Bourse

Chocodiem not only offers absolutely sinful chocolate selections, they also feature an amazing selection of enticing wines, and for National Wine Day they are pulling out all of the stops. Philadelphians can enjoy $8 draft wines and $12 split bottles paired with French macaroons, chocolate truffles and more for the perfect sweet treat.
111 S Independence Mall E, chocodiem.com

Co-Op

Head to this West Philly hotspot this weekend to take advantage of their amazing National Wine Day specials. Beginning at 12 p.m. this Saturday, Philadelphians can indulge in Cape May salt oysters priced at six for $12 or twelve for $20, and a Beach House Pinot Grigio for only $20.
20 S 33rd St #1, coopphilly.com

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Taron Egerton plays Elton John | PARAMOUNT PICTURES

Elton John makes Cannes sing with a biographical tape

The film about the artist dubbed "Rocketman" has hit the glamour on the French Riviera. Starring Taron Egerton from England, the movie was praised at its premiere during the Film Festival.

ERNESTO GARRATT VIÑES MWN
letters@metro.us

Right when actor Taron Egerton is playing "Your Song" on the big screen, possessed as Elton John in the film "RocketMan," ovation bursts the Lumière room. The award-winning British musician is part of the audience, loyal to the king of pop who breathes the same air as the attendants to this historical screening. All of us present applaud the scene of the biographical film of the voice of "Tiny Dancer" and its successful premiere at Cannes.

Following the triumphant trail of "Bohemian Rhapsody," the biographical film about Freddy Mercury and the band Queen, "Rocketman" follows the same path: an official story well packaged and recreated. In fact, it is the same director in charge of the film about the late Mercury, Dexter Fletcher, who made this new musical biopic.

When watching the movie, you can not stop considering a crucial element of the success of this product. It features an "inside" redeemer of the protagonist in question. Here, the story of Elton John, tormented and addicted to drugs, alcohol, sex and shopping, stuck by the bad relationship with an absent father, begins when he attends a meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous.

From that moment, the pop song of the artist accompanies the images of his early years as a maladjusted child in the England of the last century. It is followed by his youth years, going through the discovery of his sexual identity and the fruitful alliance with a "creative partner," the composer Bernie Taupin, played by Jamie Bell.

"Rocketman", which flirts with some winks of fantasy, and with Cannes (with the 1983 song "I'm Still Standing" with a clip set on the beach of the Hotel Carlton) is designed for the mass consumption. And it is set to become a global phenomenon perhaps as much as "Bohemian Rhapsody" because it works with the same Wurlitzer pop logic. It is better to listen to it than to understand.

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BOSTON CALLING

5 things you need to know about Boston Calling 2019

The fest returns this Memorial Day weekend.

Get ready to rock, because Boston Calling is back for its 10th installment this Memorial Day weekend. Here are five things you need to know ahead of the three-day music fest's return May 24-26 at the Harvard Athletic Complex.

1. Who's set to perform?
Boston Calling always has a stacked lineup of performers, so it's no surprise that this year's fest will also feature a ton of big names, as well as a slew of talented, up-and-coming local acts. Kicking things off on Friday, Twenty One Pilots will headline the first night of Boston Calling and will take over the green stage beginning at 9:10 p.m. that evening. Other notable Friday performances include Greta Van Fleet, who's set to rock out on the red stage at 7:50 p.m., and CHVRCHES, who'll jam out on the Delta stage at 8:20 p.m.

Things kick into high gear on Saturday, as psychedelic rockers Tame Impala will headline the fest's second night, performing on the green stage at 9:20 p.m. The day will also feature appearances by Odesza, Anderson.Paak & The Free Nationals, Hozier, Betty Who and "Old Town Road" star Lil Nas X.

Hip-hop megastar Travis Scott will help wrap up Boston Calling as the Sunday headliner and is scheduled to take the green stage at 9:30 p.m. The final day of the fest will also include performances by Logic, Brandie Carlile, Chromeo, plus local rockers Guster.

2. More than just music
Boston Calling has turned into more than just a music fest in recent years, adding all kinds of interesting features and performances. Take part in outdoor games, check out the various art installations and make sure to grab a great view of the festivities from atop the 100-foot Ferris wheel.

Fans will also get the chance to enjoy a number of comedy and artistic performances throughout the weekend at the indoor arena stage. The Boston Ballet will showcase their amazing dance skills on Saturday and Sunday. Both days will feature appearances by Imogen Heap, who'll perform a spoken word piece while using Mi.Mu gloves. Don't forget to have a laugh with the all-star lineup of comedians, including current and former "Saturday Night Live" stars. Friday will feature Fred Armisen while Milton native Jenny Slate will take the stage on Saturday. Meanwhile, current cast members Melissa Villaseñor and Weekend Update co-host Michael Che will perform on Sunday.

3. What to eat
Aside from all the great acts, Boston Calling has a stacked collection of food and drink vendors to keep you energized all weekend long. General admission highlights include Bon Me, Café Beatrice, Love Art Sushi, Roxy's Grilled Cheese, Shuck Truck, The Smoke Shop, Sweet Cheeks and Tasty Burger. Pony up for platinum tickets in order to feast on special culinary offerings by some of the city's best chefs. Friday's platinum food experience will be crafted by Porto's Jody Adams, Saturday's will be helmed by Toro star Jamie Bissonnette, while Island Creek Oyster Bar's Jeremy Sewall will take over on Sunday.

4. How to get there
If you're traveling to the fest this weekend, make sure to leave your car at home unless you snagged platinum tickets, which come with complimentary on-site parking. The rest of us are encouraged to use ridesharing apps or use public transportation. The Red Line stop at Harvard Square is just a 10-minute walk from the main entrance located at 65 N. Harvard St. in Allston.

5. Ticket info
If you haven't purchased tickets yet, there are still a few options left for fans to score. Three-day general admission and VIP tickets are still available for $289 and $649 respectively. One-day tickets for each tier are still available as well. Single-day general admission tickets are $119, VIP are $239 and platinum are $649.

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Anticipating the online jump in PA

How much will the handle and revenue spike in Pennsylvania when online is a full-go?

MATT BURKE

Matt Burke is a veteran sports journalist and the Founder and Editor in Chief of MetroBet.

SPORTRADAR

The online sports betting switch will soon be flipped on in the state of Pennsylvania, so we can expect monster numbers right out of the gate, right?

Not necessarily.

Hindering instant growth with online numbers is that we are about to enter the dead zone when it comes to the sports betting calendar. By mid-June, the NFL, NBA and NHL will all be in their respective offseasons, and people will be spending less and less time in front of their TVs.

New Jersey was in a similar spot last July and August to where Pennsylvania is now in terms of online's infancy and time of year. Here were New Jersey's numbers in those months.

July 2018
$3.8 million revenue
$40.6 million handle

August 2018
$9.2 million revenue
$95.6 million handle

The jump from August to September was the key period in New Jersey as they had an influx of new sportsbooks coming on the scene and the brightest of green lights from regulators to go ahead with online betting. Adding to the perfect storm at that point was the return of college and NFL football — by far the most bet-on sports in the United States. Here were the figures in New Jersey in September 2018:

September 2018
$23.9 million revenue
$183.9 million handle

As you can see, that's quite the increase: a whopping 161 percent jump in gross revenue and a 92 percent increase in handle.

We will see a spike in Pennsylvania when online is finally good to go, for sure, but without the help of football season, it might not be as overwhelming as some expect initially.

At the very least, the few months before the start of football will allow everyone involved to work the kinks out.

TWEET OF THE DAY

Amy, but run it
@Amy_Shee

Philly was the only good draft location. No @'s. Bye.

@AdamSchefter

Future NFL Draft sites:

2020: Las Vegas

2021: Cleveland

Best bets

NBA, Phillies betting previews

Raptors at Bucks
Moneyline: Raptors +255, Bucks -305
Betting total: 218 points
Kawhi Leonard has been carrying the Raptors throughout most of their postseason run, but his supporting cast stepped up big time against the Bucks in Game 4 to forge a 2-2 series tie. The venue switches back to Wisconsin for Game 5 on Thursday.

Kyle Lowry tallied 25 points for the Raptors to lead his team in scoring in Game 4. Norman Powell added 18 off the bench, while big men Serge Ibaka and Marc Gasol combined for 34 points and 18 rebounds. Leonard had 19 points but took just 13 shots, his second-lowest total in this postseason. He is clearly favoring one of his legs after landing awkwardly during the first quarter of Game 3.

Bucks shooting guard Khris Middleton led all scorers with 30 points, his highest output of the series, while Giannis Antetokounmpo registered 25. No one else had more than 11 points for Milwaukee, a result that is almost bound to change back at home in Game 5. The Over has cashed in three straight Eastern Conference Finals games, and with the Bucks' top-ranked regular-season offense due to reawaken, a fourth straight Over appears to be a good bet.

The play: Bucks moneyline and Raptors vs. Bucks Over Parlay

Phillies at Cubs
The Phillies will send their ace, Aaron Nola (4-0, 4.47 ERA), to the hill for the finale of a four-game series with the Cubs, who will counter with veteran left-hander Jon Lester (3-2, 2.09 ERA).

Chicago's hitters have had some success against Nola, who comes into this contest having allowed just one earned run in four of his last five outings. First baseman Anthony Rizzo has two home runs in six previous at-bats against the Louisiana native, and catcher Willson Contreras has two hits in four previous trips to the plate. The Cubs have had one of the most dangerous offenses in all of baseball this year, ranking fourth in runs per game at 5.33. Lester has been hard for hitters to figure out at Wrigley over the last three seasons, going 24-9 with a 3.22 ERA and 2.88 SO/W ratio.

The play: Cubs runline

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SPORTS

Sixers still have edge for Harris

There are multiple teams preparing to make a run at the free-agent forward.

JOE PANTORNO
joseph.pantorno@metro.us

The Philadelphia 76ers are going to have their hands full when it comes to retaining Tobias Harris.

Keith Pompey of the Philadelphia Inquirer reported on Tuesday that multiple suitors, including the Sacramento Kings, Dallas Mavericks, Utah Jazz, Brooklyn Nets, and Indiana Pacers will all pursue the 26-year-old this summer.

Harris was acquired just before the NBA's February trade deadline from the Los Angeles Clippers alongside Boban Marjanovic and Mike Scott. Philadelphia had to part with Wilson Chandler, Mike Muscala, Landry Shamet, first-round draft picks in 2020, 2021, and second rounders in 2021 and 2023.

It was the second big trade of the season in which the 76ers had to give up numerous assets. The Sixers acquired Jimmy Butler and Justin Patton from the Minnesota Timberwolves for Jerryd Bayless, Robert Covington, Dario Saric and a 2022 second-round draft pick in November.

Both Harris and Butler helped create one of the most fearsome starting fives in basketball as they joined Joel Embiid, Ben Simmons, and JJ Redick. However, a lack of depth played a major role in Philadelphia's second-round playoff loss to the Toronto Raptors.

The early exit isn't going to help the chances of retaining either Butler or Harris this summer. Butler already posted a message thanking 76ers fans on Instagram which caused many to speculate that he won't be returning.

Tobias Harris is one of the NBA's many notable free agents this summer. GETTY IMAGES

There had been rumblings throughout the season that he would try to pair up with star point guard Kyrie Irving next season. The Boston Celtics point guard will also be a free agent this summer.

It would make keeping Harris a priority just based off of how much the Sixers gave up this season. To see both players walk in free agency would be a difficult blow to take, especially without those draft picks to help restock the talent pool.

The Sixers do have one big advantage though when it comes to beating those other teams to Harris. Because they have his rights, the 76ers can offer a maximum five-year, $188 million contract. The Kings, Mavericks, Jazz, Nets, and Pacers can only offer a four-year deal worth $141 million.

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Berube showing Flyers what they missed

The former Flyers head coach led a remarkable turnaround. Should Philly fans be jealous?

JOE PANTORNO
joseph.pantorno@metro.us

The 2019 Stanley Cup Final is officially set after the St. Louis Blues took down the San Jose Sharks in six games, securing their fourth trip to the NHL's championship round in franchise history.

They'll be meeting a familiar foe in the Boston Bruins, who made quick work of the Carolina Hurricanes in the Eastern Conference Final behind a tidy sweep.

These two sides met in the 1970 Final, which is best remembered for Bobby Orr's soaring Cup-winner that has become a picturesque, monumental moment in the league's history.

For Flyers fans, there will be several familiar faces on display in the Cup Final including Patrick Maroon and Brayden Schenn. But the most notable name will be featured behind the Blues' bench in head coach Craig Berube.

While there will be a tinge of sour grapes amongst the Philadelphia fan base — especially after the team had one of their worst seasons since the mid-2000s — the former Flyers head coach's success derives from a far more advantageous situation in St. Louis.

Berube spent over a decade in the Flyers organization, rising from the ranks as player-assistant for their AHL affiliate in 2003-04 to interim head coach of the NHL club three games into the 2013-14 season.

He helped overturn an early 4-10-1 deficit to finish that season at 42-30-10 to finish third in the Metropolitan Division, which clinched the Flyers' 17th playoff appearance in 19 years.

Craig Berube and Patrick Marron are two former Flyers headed to the Stanley Cup Final. GETTY IMAGES

Yet the Flyers and, at the time, new GM Ron Hextall decided to make some changes that handcuffed Berube's chances at real success in 2014-15.

Hextall traded veteran forward Scott Hartnell for RJ Umberger and did little to improve the blue line. The Flyers' defensive core was a mess as an unimpressive group of Mark Streit, Nick Schultz, Nicklas Grossmann, Michael Del Zotto, Luke Schenn, and Andrew MacDonald were the only blueliners to appear in more than half the games that season.

There was also Berube's public call-outs of Sean Couturier, who was struggling to meet the lofty expectations that he's finally reaching.

With tension filling every corner of the organization, the Flyers missed the playoffs and Berube was shown the door.

He joined the Blues, where he once again rose from the AHL to take over St. Louis when Mike Yeo was fired after 19 games.

The Blues were going nowhere and looked destined to finish at the very bottom of the NHL when they were dead-last on Jan. 3.

But then Berube and the Blues stumbled upon a franchise goalie in 25-year-old Jordan Binnington, who is now up for NHL Rookie of the Year after going 24-5-1 upon his call-up from the AHL.

He, along with the reemergence of superstar forward Vladimir Tarasenko, sparked a franchise-best 11-game winning streak to turn things.

Ryan O'Reilly put up a career-high 77 points, Tarasenko eclipsed the 30-goal mark for the fifth-straight season and the former Flyer Schenn finished third on St. Louis with 54 points in 72 games.

In Berube's lone full season as Flyers head coach, his offense was a bottom-10 attack in the league while his defense allowed the fourth-most goals in the Eastern Conference.

Chalk it up to time, maturity, or just a better roster, but all Flyers fans can really do is tip their cap to Berube and settle in for what should be an entertaining Stanley Cup Final.

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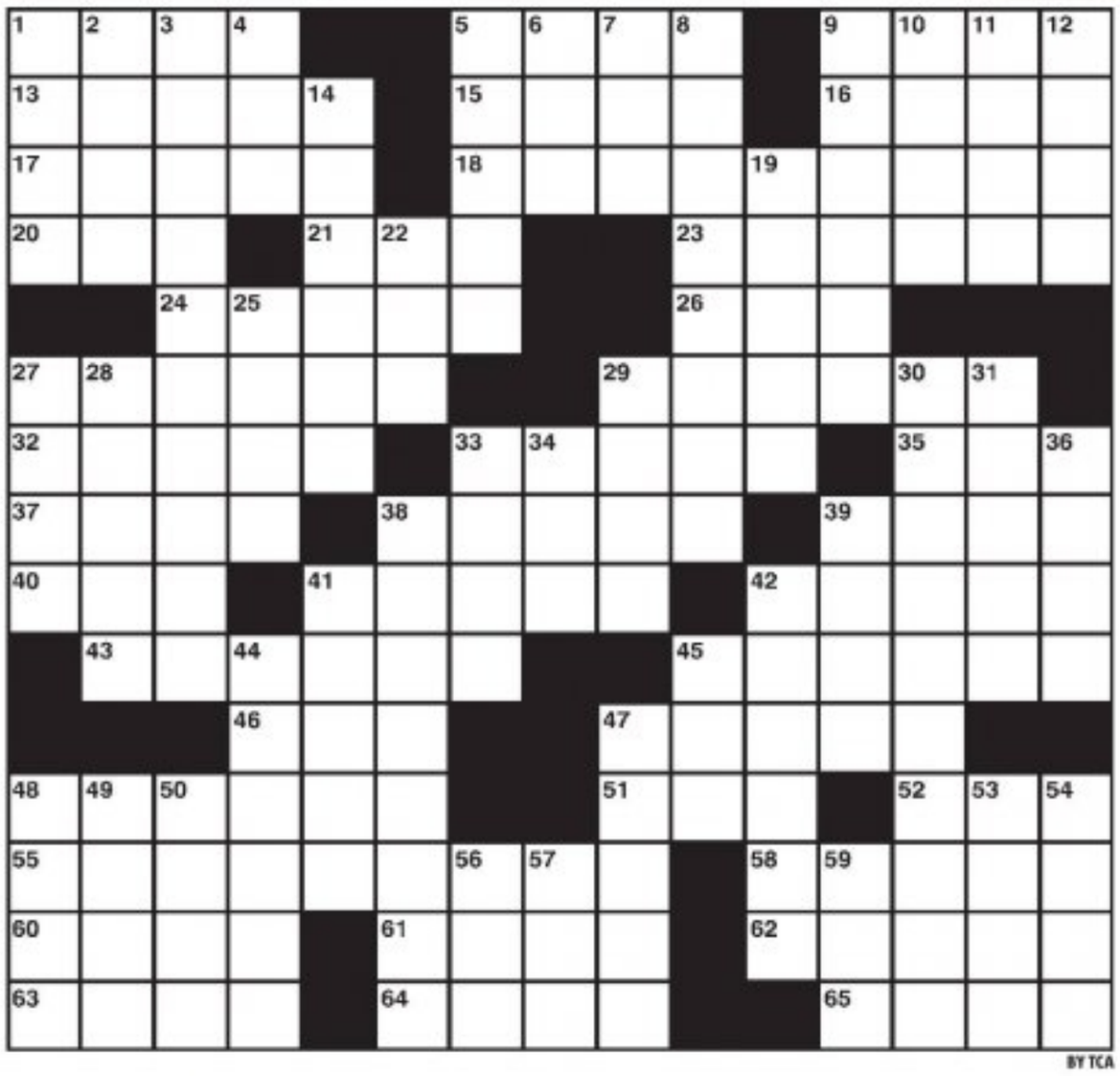

BY TCA

ACROSS
1 Farm animals
5 Flat caps
9 Trade
13 Think __; verbalize feelings
15 Funny person
16 Rob Reiner's dad
17 Ms. Zellweger
18 Emergency vehicle
20 Group of whales
21 J. Edgar Hoover's agcy.
23 First First Lady
24 Chosen few
26 English channel
27 Butter or jam
29 Snoozes
32 Boundary
33 Salesman's pitch
35 Steal from
37 Wood choppers
38 Pierces
39 "From __ to Eternity"
40 Brooch
41 Leg parts
42 Bank vaults
43 Engraver
45 __ from; talks out of
46 Chat room laugh
47 One of the 12 Apostles
48 Chaperone
51 Suffix for respond or insist
52 Shade tree
55 Unfinished business
58 Bert's buddy
60 Curly cabbage
61 Chess piece
62 Ran fast
63 Argument
64 Stick around
65 Ties the knot

DOWN
1 Nag
2 Blue Bonnet or Parkay
3 Sense of awe
4 Girl's nickname
5 Characteristic
6 Objective
7 Unruly crowd
8 Trips
9 Hard to find
10 Desire
11 Part of a foot
12 Tearful request
14 Team loss
19 Can wrapper
22 File drawer, perhaps
25 Garlands
27 Swat
28 Mischievous sprite
29 Bro and sis
30 First choice
31 More miffed
33 Recipe verb
34 Skillet
36 Mrs. Truman
38 Havens
39 Detest
41 Coast
42 Large bird dog
44 Clothes storage area
45 Comfy room
47 Irritating
48 BPOE folks
49 Cleansing bar
50 Soft drink
53 Was dishonest
54 Prescriptions, for short
56 "All that glitters is __ gold"
57 __ slow burn; get furious
59 __ deal; unfair treatment

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	9				1	3		
	5		3				2	9
		1	9	7	2	5		
9	2				5		3	
		2	1				4	
								5
	1	5	2		4	7	9	

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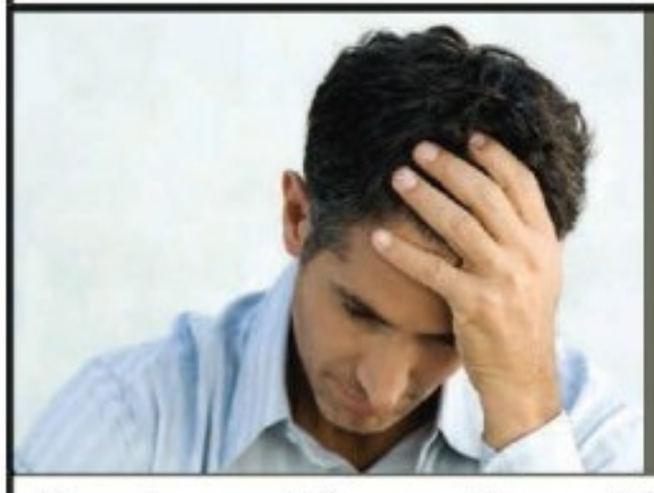

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